

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

DOUG BRIGGS,

Plaintiff,

v.

LIFE CARE CENTERS OF AMERICA
INC, LAKE VUE OPERATIONS LLC,
TODD FLETCHER, ELLIE BASHAM,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C21-740 MJP

ORDER OF CONSOLIDATION

DARCY KOVACS

Plaintiff,

v.

LIFE CARE CENTERS OF AMERICA
INC, LAKE VUE OPERATIONS LLC,
TODD FLETCHER, ELLIE BASHAM,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C21-741 MJP

Per Rule 42(a), the Court raises this matter sua sponte after having reviewed the
Complaints and Joint Status Reports filed in both of the above-captioned matters. Having

1 discussed this issue with the Parties during a status conference on August 23, 2021, the Court
2 hereby CONSOLIDATES both actions for all purposes, including trial.

3 As the Parties reported to the Court, these cases share a common nucleus of facts as to
4 liability, while the facts unique to each Plaintiff's claims predominantly focus on damages.
5 Given the overlapping factual nature of the claims, consolidation appears an appropriate means
6 of creating judicial economy and minimizing costs and delay to the Parties. See Fed. R. Civ. P.
7 42(a). The cases also appear to present common legal issues that should be determined as to both
8 cases, rather than in a piecemeal fashion. Resolving common legal questions in one action will
9 serve the Court's and Parties' interests in efficiency, fairness, and economy. See id. The Court
10 therefore finds consolidation proper under Rule 42(a) and ORDERS that the cases be
11 consolidated for all purposes, including trial. Individualized discovery shall be permitted for the
12 development of facts specific to each Plaintiff's claims. As to trial, the Court also finds that a
13 single jury should hear the Plaintiffs' claims and Defendants' defenses in one proceeding. This
14 will be the most efficient and effective means of ensuring a fair and expedient resolution of the
15 claims presented.

16 All future filings in this consolidated action must be filed in C21-740, with the following
17 caption: Doug Briggs and Darcy Kovacs v. Life Care Centers of America Inc., Lake Vue
18 Operations LLC, Todd Fletcher, and Ellie Basham, C21-740 MJP.

19 The Court will separately issue a case schedule for the consolidated action.

20 The clerk is ordered to provide copies of this order to all counsel.

21 Dated August 27, 2021.

22 

23 Marsha J. Pechman
24 United States Senior District Judge